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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, GUATEMALA — DESP. NO. 730

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON — DATE February 23, 1954

REF : Embassy Despatch 727, February 23

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USUN-1 S/S-2

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.	
	ara-4	INFO	DC/R-2 OLI-6 UNA-4 EUR/X-1
	REC'D 2-26	OTHER	CIA-7 Navy-3 USIA-10

SUBJECT: Guatemalan Political Leaders and Administration Press Call For Guatemala to Denounce "International Conspiracy" Against Her at Caracas.

CENTRAL FILES

714.00/2-2354

Although the Guatemalan Government has made no statement outlining its tactics with respect to the item on Communist intervention at Caracas, local political figures and the Administration press have been loudly prophesying that Guatemala will use the Caracas Conference to denounce an "international conspiracy" directed against this country. The prophecy is apparently that the Guatemalan Government will in its defense against charges of Communist infiltration use the contents of its January 29 White Paper which alleged that Guatemalan anti-Communist exiles planned an armed invasion of Guatemala with the aid of President SOMOZA of Nicaragua and the "acquiescence of the Government of the North."

Thus Víctor Manuel GUTIERREZ, Communist Secretary General of the national labor federation stated in an address on February 19 that "Guatemala will not go to Caracas to sit on the bench of the accused but to raise its accusing voice against the international conspiracy which seeks to strangle the liberties of the people." The address was delivered before the Third Congress of the CNCG, the national peasants' organization.

In a representative editorial, the pro-government Nuestro Diario of February 15 said, "The government's decision to attend the Tenth Inter-American Conference does not imply a rectification of its foreign policy, nor a concession to anybody.....All of the democratic sectors of the country have rejected threats and are not disposed to allow the national sovereignty to be wounded by a maneuver, apparently directed at Communism.....the statements of the Chairman of the delegation Lic. TORIELLO are precise: Guatemala will continue without change her decision to defend her sovereignty in the diplomatic field as in any other field which the interventionists attempt to use for their sinister purpose."

Meanwhile, Guatemalan diplomacy in the hemisphere has been engaged in establishing the setting for a Guatemalan case against "foreign intervention." In the past few days, J. Roberto FANJUL

JCHill:cs
REPORTING OFFICER

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OFFICE OF REGIONAL AMERICAN AFFAIRS

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LWC

Minister of Economy, has gone to Mexico at the head of a delegation to a meeting sponsored by the Mexican "Society of Friends of Guatemala;" ex-President Juan José AREVALO has gone to Bolivia and a Bolivian "Society of Friends of Guatemala" has been established there; and a Chilean "Society of Friends of Guatemala" has announced a demonstration for February 28, the day before the Caracas Conference opens.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

William L. Krieg
Counselor of Embassy

cc: AmEmbassy, Caracas
(For U.S. Delegation to Conference)